

THORN·CLARKE

Barossa Wines · Australia

## SANDPIPER CHARDONNAY

The Sandpiper range is named after the migratory bird which visits the Thorn-Clarke vineyards annually from the northern hemisphere - something of a reminder of the tenacity and commitment which is required for long term viticulture.



<b>VINTAGE</b>	2009	<b>REGION</b>	Eden Valley
<b>HARVESTED</b>	April 2009	<b>BOTTLED</b>	December 2009
<b>ALCOHOL</b>	13.5%		

### WINEMAKERS NOTE

The wine is a pale straw colour. The nose is clean and elegant with white peach and blossom notes. This is a medium weight wine with peach, pear and some citrus notes. The palate is well textured and mouth filling due to the wine being partially fermented on French oak and aged on lees. There are also hints of nutty oak and roasted nut characters in the wine. The wine finishes with good length of citrus fruits.

### VINTAGE

The 2009 vintage started a little earlier than usual due to a week of hot weather. Following this, the weather settled down to an extended spell of warm, dry days and cool nights. Some light rain in March provided much needed relief for thirsty vines, and resulted in the vintage finishing well - producing wines with excellent colour and flavour.

### WINEMAKING

Crushed, de-stemmed and then pressed using a membrane press. Pressings were not used. Fermented using French yeast at 12-15 degrees celcius. The ferment was kept slow and cool to retain all the natural flavours of the grape. The wine was then racked and filtered. Bottling took place soon afterwards so the wine was a true expression of the grape and the terroir from which it was made.

